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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JONES).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, D.C.,
September 14, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable WALTER B. JONES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 21, 1997, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) for 5 minutes.

CALLING FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON TO RESIGN

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I spent the weekend reading the Starr report and the White House rebuttal. The President's DNA on Monica Lewinsky's dress is clear proof that the President had sex with a White House intern. This means that the President lied when he wagged his finger and looked us in the eye and said, "I'm going to say this again: I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) is reminded not to make those references. This is under the Speaker's announced guidelines interpreting the rule of the House.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. GANSKE. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, all across the country the Starr report is being read in every newspaper by citizens. This is the floor of the House of the people. I am not saying anything that has not been reported in the Starr report and verified by scientific, factual detail. Is the Chair ruling that Members cannot speak about the Starr report in this well?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is correct. As the Chair reiterated, with the concurrence of the minority leader, on September 10, 1998, Members engaging in debate must abstain from language that is personally offensive toward the President, including references to various types of unethical behavior, and this restriction extends to quoting from or inserting in the RECORD extraneous material that is personally abusive of the President and would be improper if spoken as the Member's own words.

It is only during the pendency of proceedings actually relating to impeachment as the pending business on the floor of the House that remarks in debate may include references to personal misconduct on the part of the President.

While an inquiry is underway in committee, the committee is the proper forum for examination and debate of such allegations. Indeed, after a question actually relating to impeachment has been considered on the floor, the House returns to the conduct of its other business, and references to per-

sonal conduct on the part of the President may not be continued or repeated.

Mr. GANSKE. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, the other body, the Senate, has had already extensive comments and debates on their floor. Is the Chair telling me that Members of the House will not be able to refer to the Starr report until the Committee on the Judiciary handles this?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The other body is governed by different rules, and the gentleman is correct where the matter is not the pending impeachment business on the floor.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, let me try to revise my remarks, and I will proceed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I guess the Speaker can tell me if I am out of order again.

For a President to be effective, he must be trusted to tell the truth. I believe that the President should now do the honorable thing and resign.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 12 noon.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 12 noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 12 noon.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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